

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01532 141608Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----103018 150214Z /17

R 141425Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO USDA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0449
USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1532

USDA FOR FAS/W
DEPT FOR NEA/ARP
COMMERCE FOR ITA/BED/CAGNE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, BEXP, KU
SUBJ: TRADE REFERRAL SYSTEM: ERRONEOUS UPDATE BY USDA/FAS

REF: (A) USDA TR2-F DATED DEC. 8, 1977, (B) USDA TR3-F
DATED OCT. 3, 1977, (C) 77 KUWAIT A-062,

1. SUMMARY: USDA/FAS/W IS APPARENTLY DISSEMINATING A LISTING OF KUWAITI FIRMS (REFS A AND B) WHICH ARE ALLEGED TO BE LOCAL AGRICULTURAL FOOD IMPORTERS. THIS LIST IS BASED ON OUTDATED INFORMATION AND CONTAINS NON-EXISTENT AND INAPPROPRIATE FIRMS AS WELL AS INNUMERABLE ONE MAN, HOLE-IN-THE-WALL OPERATIONS. IT IS LIKELY TO GENERATE A GREAT NUMBER OF WTDR REQUESTS WHICH WOULD PROVE USELESS TO THE REQUESTOR AND ADD SIGNIFICANTLY TO COMMERCIAL SECTION WORK LOAD. REQUEST NEA/ARP AND CAGNE COORDINATE WITH USDA/FAS/W TO WITHDRAW KUWAIT PART OF REFS A AND B AND SUBSTITUTE THE UPDATED LIST OF KUWAIT FOOD IMPORTERS WHICH THE EMBASSY SUBMITTED IN REF C. END SUMMARY.

2. TWO COPIES OF THE TRADE OPPORTUNITY REFERRAL SYSTEM
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 01532 141608Z

(TORS) LISTING OF KUWAITI FIRMS, REFS A AND B, ARRIVED AT THE EMBASSY MARCH 11, 1978 WITHOUT EXPLANATORY OM OR LETTER. UPON EXAMINATION, THE LISTINGS PROVED TO BE THE TORS LISTING USDA REQUESTED US TO UPDATE IN 1976 AND WHICH WAS UPDATED AND TRANSMITTED PER REF C.

3. THE PRE-1976 TORS LISTING DONE BY A LOCAL CONTRACTOR PAID PER

ITEM, WAS OBVIOUSLY LIFTED WHOLELY FROM THE KUWAIT TELEPHONE DIRECTORY PRIOR TO THE TELEPHONE SYSTEM'S CONVERSION TO SIX DIGIT TELEPHONE NUMBERS. IT CONTAINED A POTPOURRI OF NON-EXISTENT OR INAPPROPRIATE FIRMS, SMALL CONVENIENCE STORES, RESTAURANTS, RETAILERS, AND COOPERATIVES WHICH WOULD PROVE OF LITTLE USE TO AMERICAN FOOD EXPORTERS. THE MOST NOTABLE INCLUSION IN REF B (PAGE 42) IS HAJ ALI ARBASH, WHO IS WELL KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY AND THE PERSONNEL OF NEA/ARP AS AN IMPORTER AND RETAILER OF FINE JEWELRY, BUT NOT FOOD.

4. REF C WAS PREPARED AT CONSIDERABLE EMBASSY EFFORT AND FUNDED BY USDA. IT LISTS THE 29 MAJOR FOOD IMPORTERS WHO DOMINATE OVER 90 PERCENT OF THE FOOD IMPORT MARKET AND WHO SUPPLY NEARLY ALL LOCAL RETAILERS INCLUDING THE COOPERATIVES, WHICH ALONE ACCOUNT FOR OVER 70 PERCENT OF ALL RETAIL FOOD SALES. IT IS THE ONLY VALID LIST FOR KUWAIT.

5. AMERICAN FIRMS RELYING ON THE LISTS IN REFS A AND B WILL BE DISAPPOINTED. THE LIKELY NUMBER OF WTDR'S TO BE REQUESTED AS A RESULT WILL BE OF LITTLE USE TO THE REQUESTOR AND WILL OVERBURDEN THE WORK LOAD OF THE COMMERCIAL SECTION TO NO AVAIL.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: NEA/ARP AND USDOC/CAGNE COORDINATE WITH USDA/FAS/W TO RECALL THESE ERRONEOUS FIRM LISTINGS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 01532 141608Z

AND TO SUBSTITUTE THE UPDATED LIST OF MAJOR KUWAITI FOOD IMPORTERS, REF C.
MAESTRONE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, BUSINESS FIRMS, TRANSACTION CHECKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KUWAIT01532
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780114-0395
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780372/aaaacism.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 96ecf5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3342855
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRADE REFERRAL SYSTEM: ERRONEOUS UPDATE BY USDA/FAS
TAGS: EAGR, BEXP, KU, USDA
To: USDA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/96ecf5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014